



# The Hongkong Telegraph

For  
Reservations  
Tel: 27880

VOL. V NO. 8

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1950.

Price 20 Cents

## Bevin And ISBRANDTSEN DEMANDS U.S. AID

### Pacific Pact

#### DOES NOT FAVOUR INTERVENTION

Colombo, Jan. 9. — Mr. Ernest Bevin today told the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers here that circumstances in Asia did not favour a Pacific Pact similar to the Atlantic Pact.

He was addressing the Commonwealth Conference at its opening here today.

Both Mr. Bevin and Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, suggested that the right remedy for Asia was co-operation among the interested Powers, not the intervention of some Powers in the affairs of others.

Mr. Bevin believed that the situation in Asia was different from that in the North Atlantic area. It required different remedies.

Intervention had not been the method adopted among Western Powers in meeting the European crisis. Mr. Bevin said in an overall survey of international affairs.

For example, he said, Britain was carrying through an experiment in social democracy in Europe, had not attempted to intervene in this experiment.

Why, Mr. Bevin asked, should Russia attempt to intervene where Powers in Asia or elsewhere were trying to work out their own problems in their own ways?

Mr. Bevin said that Asia was facing a crisis like that confronting post-war Europe in 1946 and 1947, with the same elements of economic need and the threat of Communist encroachment.

Europe's crisis, he said, had been largely met by the cooperation of the Western Powers, politically, economically and in the security field.

The Canadian Foreign Minister, Mr. Lester Pearson, told the assembled Ministers that his country's foreign policy was based on a recognition of the dangers resulting from the new Russian imperialism.

### Chase Bank Robbery

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No arrests have been made so far in connection with the daring armed robbery carried out at Chase Bank yesterday afternoon.

Mr. E. C. Lacombe, Director of Criminal Intelligence told the Police were determined to solve this daring crime and detectives assigned on this job had been working all last night combing the city for the smallest piece of information and clues.

The Director of Criminal Intelligence said he could not form any theory about the crime, but he believed that the robbers were not the usual type of desperadoes. They had been responsible for the common armed robberies committed in the Colony. He expressed his belief that the robbers possibly belonged to the guerrilla type with some kind of military training. He thought the crime perpetrated at the Chase Bank was well planned.

INSIDE JOB UNLIKELY

"They obviously knew the lay-out of the bank extremely well," Mr. Lacombe said. He doubted the crime being carried out with any inside assistance as Police investigation revealed that the majority of the bank employees had been in the office at the time of the robbery.

With regard to the three false alarms which were due to short circuits, Mr. Lacombe said he could not connect these accidents with the armed robbery. False alarms through short circuits of bank wiring systems at the Police station were frequent, occurring about once a week. These alarms, he said, had added to the confusion of the bank employees at their own end.

At the time of the robbery, Mr. Lacombe said, the bank was in a state of confusion and the employees were not in a position to offer any assistance.

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### Nationalist Statement

#### On Shooting

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Taipei, Jan. 9. — A Chinese Nationalist Navy spokesman declared tonight that the gunboat Wuling fired on the American freighter Flying Arrow "to save her from complete destruction" in a Nationalist mine field at the mouth of the Yangtze. He said the shelling was intended only to disable the ship after she ignored orders to halt. — Associated Press.

### REDS CLAIM

#### VICTORY ON HAINAN

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San Francisco, Jan. 9. — A Chinese Communist news agency declared tonight that the Red forces operating on the island won an initial victory in the battle for Hainan by defeating two battalions of the Nationalist 150th Division on December 29.

It is believed that the despatch referred to guerrilla units who have been incorporated into the Chinese Communist "People's Liberation Army" as there are no known Red regulars on the island.

The agency claimed that the Red forces had captured a considerable amount of equipment and supplies from the Nationalist units.

Nationalist despatches from Hainan said the Reds on the Luchow peninsula are equipped with heavy weapons and are providing air cover when the invasion is launched. One of the Nationalist despatches said that the Reds had captured a considerable amount of equipment and supplies from the Nationalist units.

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## FOR FLYING ARROW

### Ship Seriously Damaged

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New York, Jan. 9. — Shipowner Hans Isbrandtsen of the Isbrandtsen Company on Monday appealed directly to President Truman, Secretary of Defence, Louis Johnson, and Secretary of the Navy, Francis Matthews for American aid for his ship Flying Arrow, which was crippled by a Chinese warship off Shanghai.

In a telegram to the three officials he said that the barrage had caused serious damage to the 6,211-ton freighter, and that its crew and passengers were in a "dangerous and unsafe position." Isbrandtsen said the Flying Arrow was on the high seas when she was attacked 19 miles from the nearest land at the mouth of the Yangtze river. The Chinese Nationalists claim 12-miles of territorial waters.

It was learned that the Flying Arrow was damaged more severely than admitted by Isbrandtsen. A reliable source said the ship was hit below the water line, and shells had knocked out the steering gear. He added, however, that the vessel was in no immediate danger of sinking.

Meanwhile, a report from Washington states that the Coast Guard hinted that Captain David Jones, master of the Isbrandtsen Line's Flying Arrow, may lose his licence for endangering American lives and property in his attempt to evade the Chinese Nationalist blockade off Shanghai.

At the same time, the State Department has ordered an immediate investigation of the Flying Arrow's case, and has warned other Isbrandtsen ships, the Brooklyn Heights, to stay clear of Shanghai. The Brooklyn Heights is at present in Hong Kong loading cargo for Shanghai.

The State Department said Captain David Jones, master of the Flying Arrow, had been warned to keep away from the Yangtze river, and to keep away from the Yangtze river.

The cable from the Flying Arrow to New York said that there were no casualties caused by the shelling. Isbrandtsen said that other American shipping lines, including the Chinese Communist line, had been hit by the shelling.

Members of Congress are expected to lean toward the State Department's position. Representative Alexander Smith, accused the Isbrandtsen Line of trying to "stir up an incident." Other Congressmen indicated that they regarded the incident as "unfortunate," but that it does not call for drastic American action.

"PIRATICAL" ATTACK

The Coast Guard, which administers the regulations affecting American flag shipping, indicated that the Flying Arrow's case could be "benchmarked" for its action.

In New York, Isbrandtsen officials termed the attack on the Flying Arrow "piratical," since it occurred outside the 12-mile limit. Mr. Hans Isbrandtsen, President of the Line, charged that the Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, had refused to allow American naval vessels to give assistance to his ships.

Isbrandtsen's joint telegram to the President and the Secretary of Defence and the Navy reads: "The master of our American steamship, Flying Arrow, engaged with other seamen of our line in regular round-the-world service, was fired upon by the Flying Arrow (China line) at 31° 45' North and 122° 15' East, and while in the process of anchoring, the vessel was fired on with a barrage of shells by two Nationalist gunboats, causing serious damage and leaving the vessel's crew and passengers in a dangerous and unsafe position."

The telegram continued to point out that the skipper of the Flying Arrow informed the owners that, according to the position of the vessel, "the attack began and ended... westward of the line drawn between the capes or headlands across the 50-mile wide mouth of the Yangtze River, and 10

### Chou Accepts British Recognition Says Agency

#### Recognition Says Agency

London, Jan. 9. — The British Foreign Office said that it had not received notice of the Chinese Communist decision to establish diplomatic relations at a late hour tonight.

The New China News Agency, which represents the Chinese Communists, said it monitored a Peking radio broadcast which said the Chinese Foreign Minister, Chou En-lai, announced that he was willing to establish diplomatic relations with Britain "on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territory and sovereignty."

The promise to respect territory and sovereignty was regarded as important here because it was interpreted as an implied promise that the Communists would not interfere with Hongkong.

Britain recognised the Communists on Friday and Chou's answer was regarded as encouraging. The New China News Agency reported that the Peking broadcast said that Premier Chou accepted British proposals that Mr. J. C. Hutchingson, his Charge d'Affaires at Nanking, be accepted as Charge d'Affaires at Peking. — United Press.

## Cripps' Review Of Economic Position

### Cautiously Optimistic

#### OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

London, Jan. 9. — Sir Stafford Cripps, in a statement issued this evening on Britain's economic position at the end of 1949, said the year's trade figures would probably show that we did at least as well as in 1948. This comes as a surprise to most observers.

He was in jovial mood for his one-man "Brains Trust" act before 400 pressmen who questioned him on nearly every aspect of his survey.

He smiled benignly at camera men and struck one or two characteristic poses for their benefit.

Laughter interrupted a question which began: "Sir Stafford, I haven't had time to read all your statement, but there are a few points in it which I am sure you will be glad to see taken up by the public."

Sir Stafford's report matched his mood. It was cautious but optimistic. There had been no all round increase in industrial production, and while people were spending more and saving less, they were, nevertheless, showing admirable restraint in the matter of wage demands. Most companies, too, were co-operating in the Crippsian policy of "no price increases."

He spoke of the "often invidious attack of propagandists of the cold war" and said this meant a strain of heavy expenditure on defence, upon overseas information services and in economic assistance in one form or another. These were responsibilities we could not and would not wish to neglect.

Sir Stafford ended with these words: "My own assessment of the situation is that there is no country in anything like similar circumstances that can put up a better, or indeed as good a record as we have done over the past year, and I am prouder than ever of the efforts of my fellow countrymen."

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## Truman Presents Budget

### Foreign Military Aid Expenditure Nearly Doubled

Washington, Jan. 9. — President Truman, presenting his 1951 budget to Congress today, disclosed that foreign military aid expenditure was being almost doubled, while a 20 percent cut was being made in outlay on other international activities, including the Marshall Plan.

Declaring that "the threat of aggression still exists, requiring continued efforts to bolster the defences of free nations," he asked for \$1,100,000,000 for military aid to Atlantic Pact countries.

The very substantial reduction in expenditure on international activities, \$1,300,000,000 or 20 percent, below estimated spending in 1950, reflected "the declining costs of our recovery and relief programmes as they have stimulated and supported economic reconstruction, rising living standards and growing political stability."

Mr. Truman forecast closer United States attention to "expansion of world production" in undeveloped areas, now that "recovery is well under way" in main industrial areas.

He asked for \$25,000,000 for this purpose, and called for legislation to guarantee private American investments in backward territories.

In the \$2,000,000,000 budget, income, expenditure and deficit all showed reductions on last year. But national defence expenditure, \$13,500,000,000, was up by \$400,000,000. Other items included \$817,000,000 for atomic energy development.

"NOTABLE PROGRESS"

President Truman said that 71 percent of the total sum provided for in the budget was provided by Congress for the same purposes in 1950.

On the European Recovery Programme, Mr. Truman said that since it began two years ago it had made "notable progress."

Appropriation requirements for all sections of the Programme, including aid to Western Germany which had previously been provided separately, would be more than \$1,000,000,000 below amounts provided by Congress for the same purposes in 1950.

"Serious obstacles, however, remain to be surmounted," he added.

Stressing potentialities for expansion in under-developed regions, the President said, "I again urge the Congress to provide a programme of technical assistance to enable the peoples of these areas to learn and to adapt to their own needs modern technological and scientific knowledge in such fields as agriculture, health, education, transportation and industry."

On opportunities for private capital and private enterprise in such areas, he remarked, "There will remain certain abnormal risks which deter potential investors, and I again urge the enactment of legislation authorising an experimental programme by the Export-Import Bank to guarantee private development investments against such risks." — Reuter.

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### EDITORIAL

## Hongkong Trade Unionism

THE current labour disputes attract a searchlight on some interesting aspects of trade unionism in Hongkong. There appear to be a number of composite groups whose allegiance to any master body is variable. Certainly there are signs that unionism among Chinese workers lacks solidarity and cohesion. On the other hand it is difficult to find a single union, representing one type of artisan, strong enough in itself to remain independent. The dangers of such a situation are obvious: the unions, in their existing state of relative individual weakness, and lacking harmony as a single co-operative organisation established solely to protect the welfare of the workers, are a prey to outside influences, among them political and subversive elements. The same tendencies are discernible in America and Australia, and they have become to be recognised as deplorable factors besmirching the good name of Unionism in those countries. For Trade Unionism in Hongkong to find itself similarly threatened there are excuses. Trade Unionism is a workers' brotherhood which, in this Colony, is still in its infancy. Its historical and traditional precepts and concepts are not yet fully comprehended, neither have our unions wholly grasped the disadvantages as well as the uses of weapons such as the Strike and the Ultimatum. In these directions much valuable advice and knowledge can be imparted — a task which Mr. K. A. Baker, as an acknowledged expert on British trade unionism, and his colleagues in the Labour Department are not only fully qualified to fulfil, but which they are only too anxious and willing to accomplish. We have observed before that Hongkong trade unions, if they are properly to fulfil their functions, must avoid at all costs, outside control and domination, especially of a political nature. No trade unionist is expected to

be above politics, but he owes it to himself and his colleagues to see that his union is not being used as a whip for vested political ends. The Tramway workers have vehemently denied that they are acting today under any sort of outside political pressure; and strictly speaking they are probably correct. But there are reasons to believe that certain political interests are striving to utilise the current labour troubles in order to gain for themselves prestige in the eyes of the Colony's trade unionists, and with the ultimate aim of gaining domination over them. Unionists should resist any such enterprise, for, in the long run, their own interests will suffer. Nothing more disastrous can happen to trade unions than that they become discredited in the eyes of the public in consequence of machinations which place them in the power of political cliques. Trade Unionism, in a long and difficult struggle elsewhere in the world, has built for itself a reputation that is respected; it has also produced national leaders and statesmen — men with a complete grasp of the essential problems of everyday life as well as a sound appreciation of the fact that there is no easy solution to any of those problems. Such men represent the best there is to be found in trade union leadership and administration — never the tool of political opportunists, but always the sincere spokesmen for and guardians of the workers' welfare. It is leaders, patterned on such men, which can raise Hongkong trade unions to the high levels of honesty and integrity which will win for them the status they deserve in this community. But any willingness on the part of the unions to sacrifice themselves for political intrigue can achieve only one thing — bring them into disrepute, with a consequent forfeiture of public sympathy and confidence.

## K'loon-Canton Freight Wagon Service Resumes

### Service Resumes

A restricted and occasional freight wagon through service between Kowloon and Canton has recently been resumed. It was revealed by Mr. I. B. Trevor, General Manager of the KCR this morning.

During the past fortnight about half a dozen freight trains had travelled direct from Kowloon to Canton.

Mr. Trevor also disclosed that coal wagons had been making the direct trip since last November.

Questioned about the possibility of the passenger through service being resumed, Mr. Trevor said nothing had yet been arranged.

## S'HAU-CANTON SERVICE

San Francisco, Jan. 9. — A through train express service between Shanghai and Canton will be inaugurated on January 12, the Communist Peking Radio reported tonight.

It said that a trial run had proved successful. This train left Shanghai on January 8 at 2.20 p.m., and reached Canton at 3.30 p.m. on January 9. It travelled along the Shanghai-Kiang railway, the Kiang-Hankow railway and along a section of the Canton-Hankow railway. — Reuter.

## Six Killed, 110 Injured In Clash Between Police And Strikers

Modena, Italy, Jan. 9. — Six persons were killed and up to 110 injured today when 30,000 strikers stormed police guards at six factories with firearms, hand grenades, clubs and stones.

As a result, Italy's Communist labour bosses gave local unions a free hand to proclaim general strikes tonight in protest against the Modena labour riot.

Police reinforcements were rushed out from Bologna to Modena, San Giulio, Carpi and Milan where the police feared further outbreaks. In Milan, the police were on the alert for trouble while Communist

labour leaders met to decide whether to proclaim a general strike in support of the Modena workers.

Rome labour leaders also were meeting to discuss the strike mandate given them by the National Labour Federation.

At Modena, it was the worst outbreak of labour violence in Italy since the bloody disorders of July 1948. Columns of strikers tried to break through police lines to occupy factories closed by the general strike. Strikers hurled hand grenades and opened fire with rifles and pistols. All the dead were civilian victims of police gunfire.

Twenty persons were listed as injured seriously. Of these, there were police, one of whom was injured by an exploding hand grenade. Another 80 persons were treated for minor cuts and bruises.

The Labour Federation, meeting in Rome under the leadership of Giuseppe Vivitello, the Communist Party's labour boss, called a 24-hour nationwide strike of Italy's well-organised steelworkers, beginning tonight. They also ordered workers in the Emilia zone to stage a 24-hour general strike, but left it up to the local unions to decide on their own strike action. — United Press.







## PICTORIAL NEWSFRONT



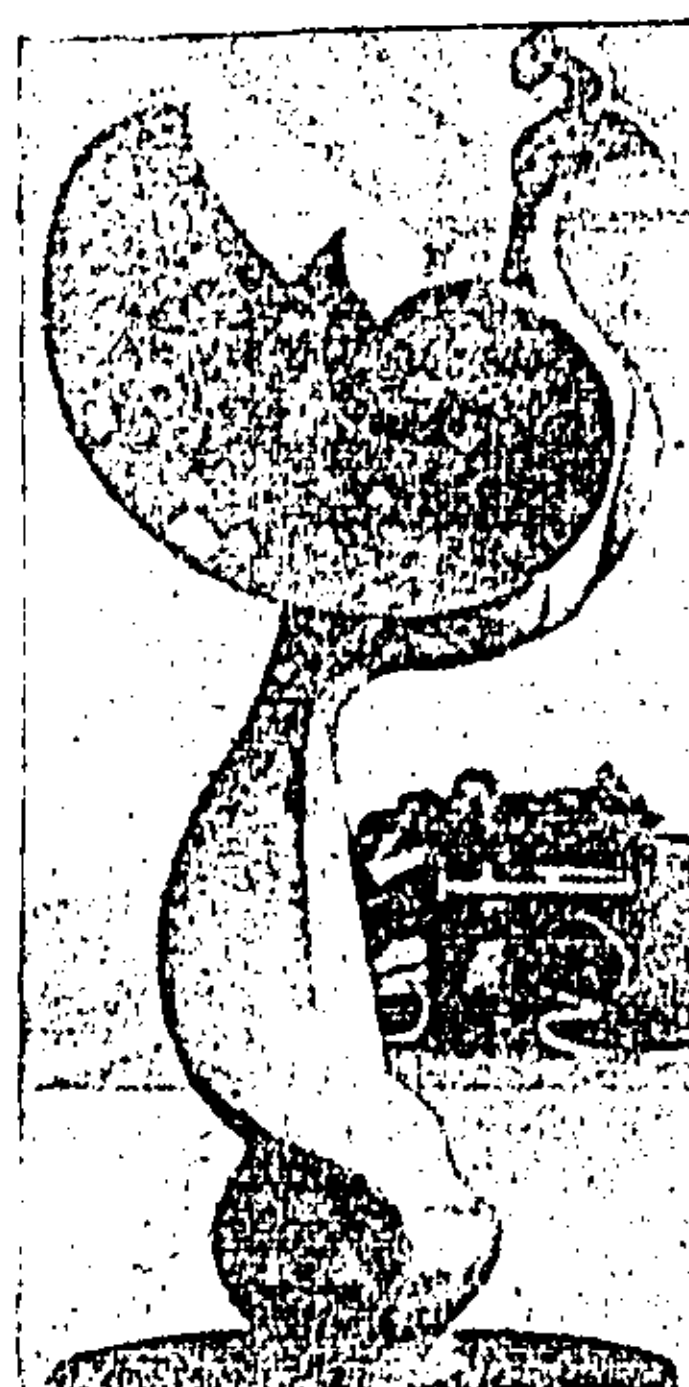
**MARINE MEMORIAL FOR VIRGINIA**—Sculptor Felix Weihs de Weldon (on ladder) works on the U.S. Marine Corps memorial based on the noted wartime picture of Iwojima flag-raising taken by Joe Rosenthal. The bronze group will stand on a hill between Washington and Mount Vernon.



**CO-OPERATIVE STARS**—June Haver and Kirk Douglas hold the Golden Apples awarded them by the Hollywood Women's Press Club as the most co-operative actress and actor of 1949.



**A GENTLEMAN AND HIS DOG**—Lester Langston, four, and his pet, Brownie, an English bulldog, go into a huddle at a canine Christmas party in Greenwich Village, New York city.



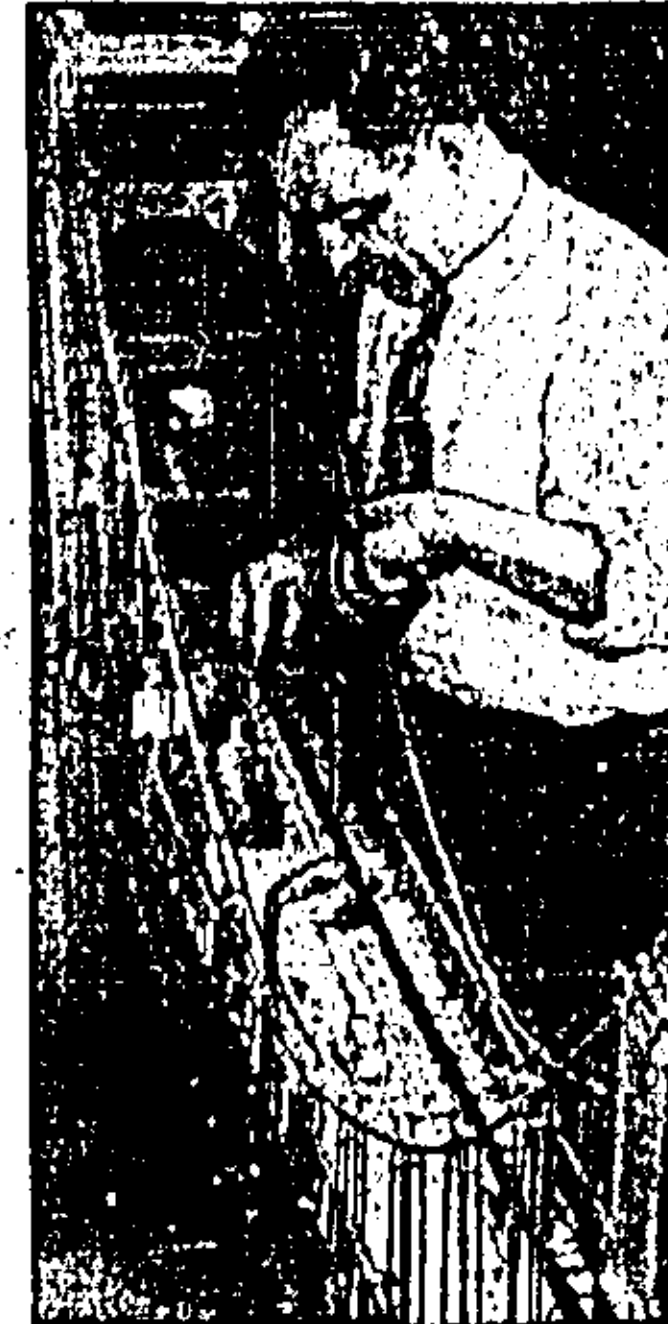
**DEBATED PHOENIX**—"Phoenix From The Ashes," carved by Ewald Mataré for the West German state of North Rhine-Westphalia, aroused objections in the Duesseldorf Parliament.



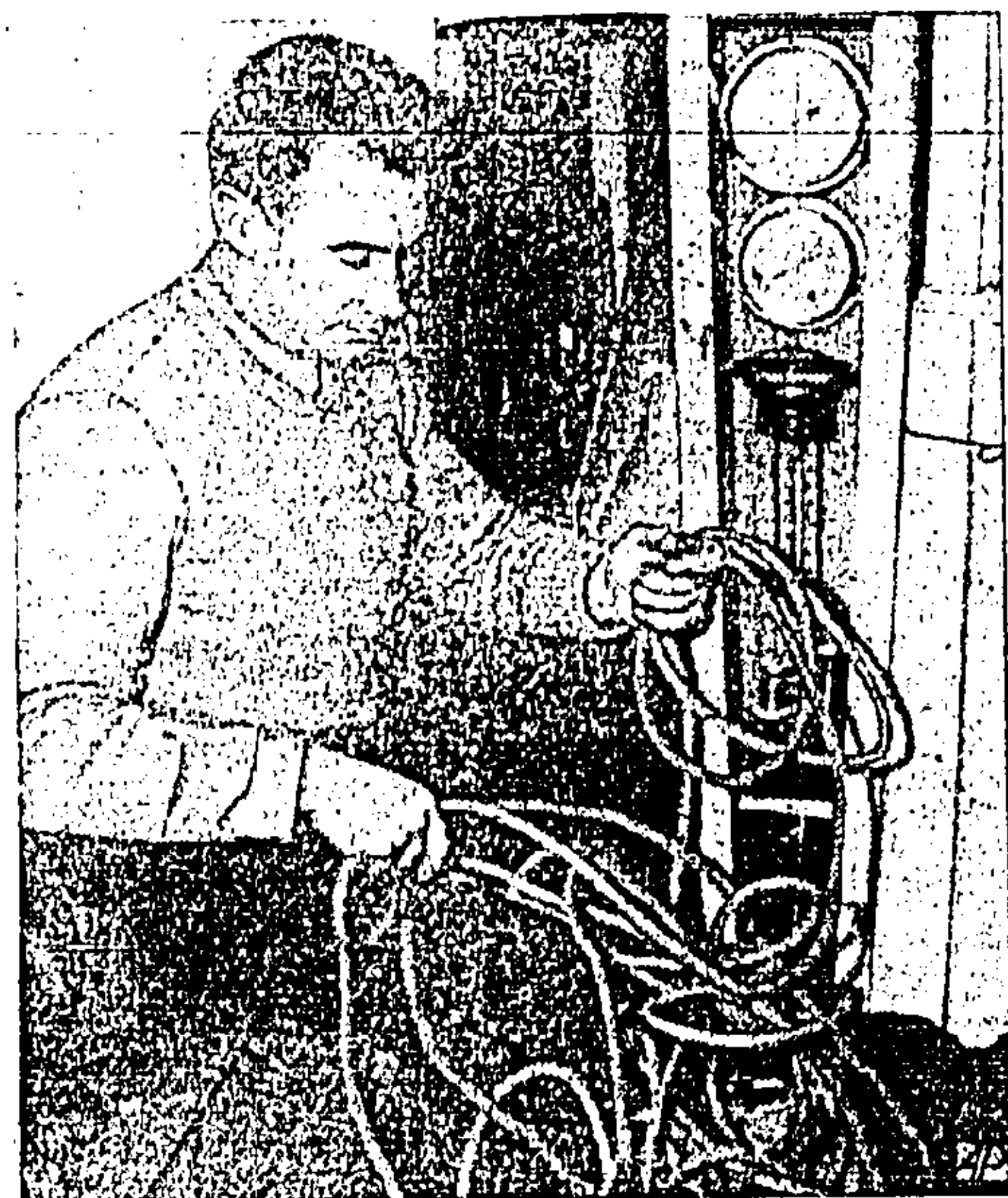
**AIRMATES**—R. Marlin Perkins, director of the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, holds chimpanzee Helnie II, and stewardess Ellie Roman holds orangutan Ling-Wong, as the Zoo additions arrive by air.



**VICTORY TOAST**—Robert Villemain, French boxer, who defeated middleweight champion Jake La Motta in a New York non-title match, celebrates with his wife (left) and mother in Paris.



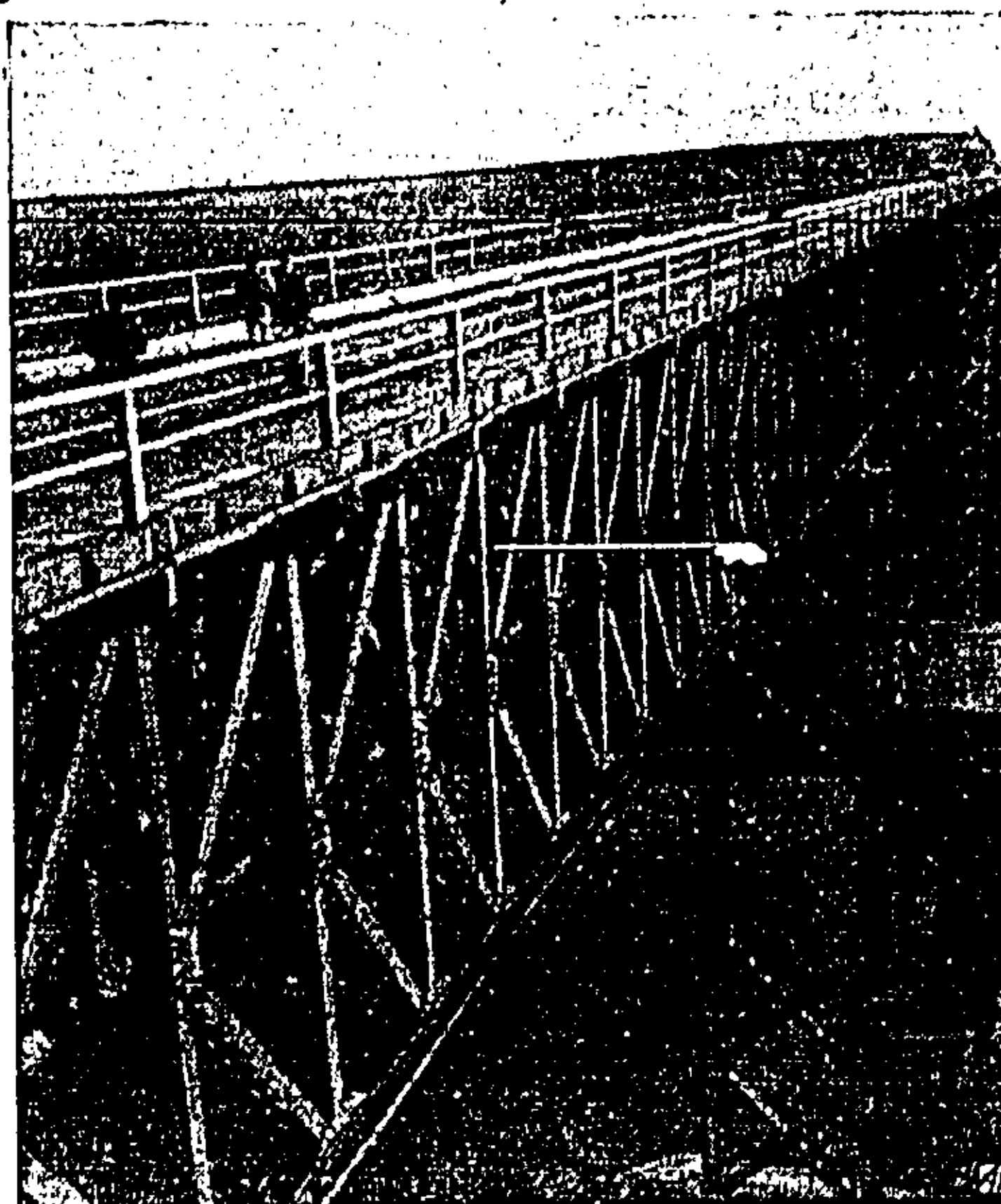
**BRIDGE BUILDER**—Michael J. Houtalas checks one of the light fixtures on his model of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge in the basement of his San Francisco home.



**TO SAIL AROUND WORLD**—Marcel Bardinax works aboard the 30-foot home-made sailboat, Four Winds, with which he will shortly leave Paris on a cruise around the world.



**SWISS PRESIDENT**—Max Petitpierre, Foreign Minister, was elected President of the Swiss Confederation by the National Council, and Council of States in Berne.



**NEW GERMAN SPAN**—Workmen finish the new surface of the bridge across the Larn Valley near Limburg, West Germany, destroyed by retreating Germans in 1945. It connects autobahn traffic from southern Germany with the industrial Ruhr.



**FIRST PREMIER**—Dr Mohammed Hatta has been appointed by President Soekarno as first Premier of the newly-formed United States of Indonesia.



**YOUNG CARD COLLECTOR**—Donald Penfield, Jr., and his mother, Mrs Donald Penfield, of Chicago, display some of 16,000 playing cards she has collected from 34 countries.



**BUTTON, BUTTON? SHE HAS IT**—Mrs Helen B. Moody, of Santa Monica, California, is surrounded by some of the 100,000 buttons she acquired in 40 years. No two are alike.



**MILK RE-DISTRIBUTOR**—Bob, a retriever, of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, is caught with the evidence after neighbours found bottles of milk missing from the stoops of their homes.



**OLD-TIMERS GET TOGETHER**—Reginald Denny, Claire Windsor (left) and Mae Murray were among movie stars of yesteryear who met in Hollywood to celebrate the anniversary of "The Squaw Man," the movie capital's first feature picture which Cecil B. DeMille said he started in 1913.



















# Population Of Red China Disillusioned

By CHANG KUO-SIN

The disillusioned and discontented people of Communist China have a variety of reasons for being so, but the chief reason is that the Communists expect too much.

Economically, they call upon the individual to work harder and live harder. Politically, they want him to give up his own thinking and calculating self and follow the Communists, that is, do and say what the Communists tell him to.

Generally speaking, the individual, as the situation stands today, has not yet reached the stage of being merely a cog in a machine, but the trend is in that direction. And a popular comment is that the Communists want the individual to act as docilely by a pet dog, work like a bull ungrudgingly and be loyal to the master all times.

Psychologically, Communist propaganda, with its "rosy" promises, is chiefly to blame for the widespread dissatisfaction. One of the promises of Communist propaganda is that the dawn would come to any place upon "liberation." But the fact in all known cases is to the contrary. The people's sufferings were deepened after the change over.

This accounts for the common phenomenon in Communist China that before a place is "liberated" the people of the place clamour for Communist occupation, but after the people have had it for several months they change their mind about the Communists.

The lack of real freedom and democracy is a matter of general comment. It is the consensus of opinion among neutral Chinese quarters that democracy under the Communists exists only in name, but not in substance. This causes disillusionment among politically-minded Chinese intellectuals who had formerly given their

## Indonesian Extremists' Offer

Jakarta, Jan. 9. Press dispatches reaching Jakarta said on Monday that leaders of the Indonesian extremist Muslim organisation, the Darul Islam, had proposed a cease-fire on the condition that their rebel forces be recognised, but that their offer was turned down by the Republican Government.

The armistice overture, these dispatches said, was made to Col. Sudikri Rahardjo, commander for Western Java.

In rejecting the offer, the Republican Government said no army would be recognised except the legal and accepted Republican Army, according to the reports.

The Government was quoted as saying that the rebels would be allowed to disband and join the Republican Army, but would under no circumstances be recognised as a separate force. The military spokesman in Jakarta was silent on these reports today.

Meanwhile, press reports said that the irregular group, under a former Dutch captain named Westerling, demanded recognition. Other reports during recent months have connected Captain Westerling with members of the Darul Islam organisation.

The Republican Army is believed to have issued orders last week for the arrest of the former Dutch captain, but he escaped into the hills.—United Press.

## Very Tasty Job



F. P. Morris (left) and C. Wiggins perform the job of ale testing — traditionally known as ale conners — during a ceremony outside a London tavern. (AP Picture).

## Security Council To Meet With Tsang In Chair

Lake Success, Jan. 9.—The United Nations Security Council holds its first 1950 session tomorrow in an atmosphere of expectancy because of the presence on the Council of Yugoslavia, whose election Russia called "illegal" and of Nationalist China's delegate, whom the Soviet Union has repudiated.

Well-informed sources said today, however, that the Soviet Union was not expected to demand tomorrow the expulsion of the Chinese representative. Press reports have indicated that the Chinese Communist Government had asked the United Nations to expel the Nationalist delegate, but it was said here that the Soviet Union would probably confine itself to another strong statement repudiating him as China's representative.

The Soviet Union is expected to wait until seven Council members have recognised the new Chinese Government before formally requesting the replacement of the present delegate by a Communist representative.

Seven affirmative votes are required to approve a resolution calling for a re-examination of delegations' credentials. This is the procedure that Russia is expected to follow to pave the way for the expulsion of Dr. T. T. Tsang, the Nationalist delegate.

Russian delegates in two minor United Nations committees today repudiated the Nationalist delegates on those committees.

They declared that the People's Republic of China had already advised the United Nations Secretary-General that the "Kuomintang delegation" did not represent China.

ONLY FIVE  
The Soviet Union, therefore, would not consider the "Kuomintang delegates" as the representatives of China, the Soviet delegates declared. At present, only five countries on the Security Council—Britain, Russia, Yugoslavia, India and Norway—have recognised the Peking Government. Two of those—Britain and Norway—two years ago, would abstain from voting on a formal proposal at this time. Both countries, it is believed, prefer to wait until a more substantial majority of United Nations members have recognised the new Communist Government.

Tomorrow's meeting, the first of the year, has been called, ironically enough by Dr. T. T. Tsang, this month's Council President under the monthly rotation system.

As President, Dr. Tsang will have the official duty of welcoming the three newly-elected members of the Council—India, Yugoslavia and Ecuador. Neither India nor Yugoslavia recognises the Chinese Nationalist Government.

Speculation on possible Russian action concerning Yugoslavia has dropped in the face of the more complex Chinese situation.

NOT RECEIVED  
Although the Soviet Union declared Yugoslavia's election to the Council as "illegal" and contrary to the unwritten "gentlemen's agreement" providing one Council seat for a Communist group candidate, Russia is not expected to challenge Yugoslavia's right to a Council seat tomorrow.

The expected Chinese Communist request for expulsion of the Chinese Nationalist delegate, which was reported to have been sent to the United Nations, has not yet been received at the United Nations Headquarters, according to officials.

The only item on the Council's agenda is circulated by Dr. Tsang, is the question of conventional armaments. The General Assembly has asked the Security Council, through its Conventional Armaments Commission, to secure agreement on holding a worldwide conference on non-atomic weapons and armed forces.—Reuters.

Spain To Have Boys' Town  
Melaga, Spain, Jan. 9.—A "Boys' Town" for orphans of Malaga province, in southwest Spain, is to be constructed at the seaside resort of Torremolinos, near here. It is expected to cost 9,000,000 pesetas (£130,000).—Reuters.

## Yen Asks For Aid Balance

Taipei, Jan. 11.—Premier Yen Hsi-shan revealed today that the Chinese Ambassador in Washington, Dr. Wellington Koo, has asked President Truman to make available to Nationalist China the \$75,000,000 anti-Communist fund voted by Congress for "the general China area."

The Premier said the request was handed to the State Department two weeks ago, but so far no answer has been received. He said it was his opinion that the scheme meant favourable consideration.

Premier Yen said if financial aid is forthcoming, his government intends to take advantage of the suggestion of the State, Mr. Dean Acheson, that retired U.S. Army officers could come to Formosa to serve as advisers, if they wanted to do so.

NO NAMES  
Marshal Yen said "We plan to contact some leading former military figures, but we have not decided to whom invitations will be extended. We must first know the extent of the possible U.S. financial assistance."

He would not mention names. He said he believed the Nationalist Government now ensconced on this island, was morally entitled to the \$75,000,000, but did not want to do anything to prejudice American consideration of the request.

Formosa's governor, Mr. K. K. Wu, agreed that Mr. Truman and Mr. Acheson had left a road open for financial aid. He said that, although America had ruled out an extension of the China programme of ECA, "I hope and believe that, pending a definitive statement of official policy, that respect Mr. Acheson and Mr. Acheson are clearly holding out promise of help."

WORLD CONFLICT  
Mr. Wu also deplored the Western description of the China conflict as a "civil war." He said: "It is true that it is Chinese versus Chinese, but it is an international conflict. It is part of the universal cold war between two ideologies." Meanwhile, it is pointed out that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has been busy working out overall plans for the defence of Formosa. He redoubled his efforts after his return from Sunmoo Lake last week. The Government also visited Taipei over the week-end to attend military practices being held there.

No definite news regarding the date of Madame Chiang's arrival here is yet known. Madame Chiang is due to arrive here from the United States.—United Press.

## PAKISTAN'S REPLY TO AFGHANS

Karachi, Jan. 9.—The Pakistan Prime Minister, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, told Parliament today that "not one inch of our land will be surrendered to anybody, come what may."

He was replying to Afghan demands that the Northwest Frontier Province and certain areas of Baluchistan be retained as an independent "Push-toonistan" and incorporate certain tribal areas on the Pakistan side of the border.

Pakistan wanted friendly relations with Afghanistan but had not given up hope that "sanity will dawn on the rulers of Afghanistan."

The Prime Minister said that there had been no response to the Pakistan offer to discuss with Afghanistan all matters of common interest. Pakistan had offered to negotiate on a basis of relations of enduring friendship. They could not be expected to continue forever pleading for friendship, he added.—Reuters.

## ALE GARLAND REVIVED

London, Jan. 9.—Saloons in the city of London—the heart of the metropolis—have revived the holiday "ale garland." The custom dates from medieval times and was last observed in pre-war 1938. Each public house hangs out two hoops of evergreens, barley and holly berries. Some add lanterns. Originally, the garland was an embellishment to the ale stake, the sign which used to tell the official ale taster that a new brew was ready for him to savour.

The office of ale taster no longer exists. The garland now just means there is hospitality, good fellowship and ale inside.—Associated Press.

## POCKET CARTOON



## Fighting Social Diseases

Singapore, Jan. 9.—Indonesia, Ceylon and Siam are to get assistance from the World Health Organisation to combat and control venereal diseases, according to the Singapore office of the WHO. A sum of US\$5700,000 has been earmarked for the campaign. Initial plans include a yaws eradication project in Indonesia, where the disease is prevalent among children up to 75 percent.—Heuter.

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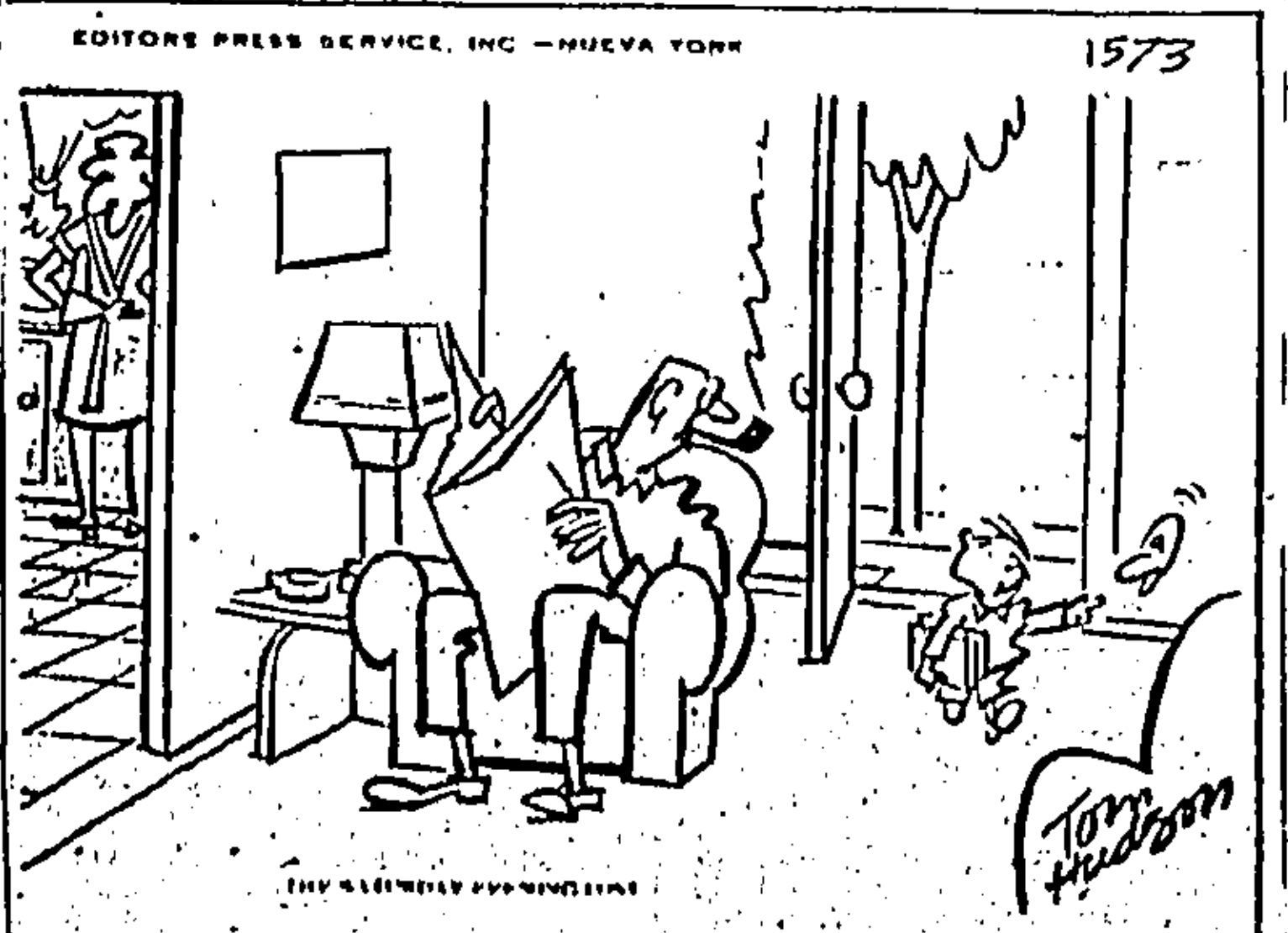
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**Printed and published by** WILLIAM ARNOLD GIBBS for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.



What did I learn today? Well, for one thing I learned that five and four don't make eight.